

UNIFIED ARIZONA VETERANS – January 5, 1008

Call to Order: The regular meeting of the Unified Arizona Veterans was called to order at 10:00 a.m. with proper ceremonies by Chairman Gary Fredricks. The roll of officers and organizations was called; a quorum was established.

Introductions: Tony Tiedermann and Tim Tiedemann, Loved Ones Lost Charity; Bob Immel, Phoenix Military & Veterans Hospitality Room; and Rick Barrow, Madison Meadows, were introduced.

The regular order of business was suspended due to the necessity for General Maxon, ADVS Director to leave. General Maxon reported on the following.

- There are two proposals for ADVS's contribution to the state budget shortfall:
 - \$200,000 from authorized VBC positions, \$150,000 from Capital Improvements, and \$80,000 from computer upgrades; or
 - \$928,000 from VSD (Chairman's Option).
- There was a recent allocation from the Arizona Veterans Donation Fund to the Yuma Veterans Memorial Park in the amount of \$30,000 to complete that project.
- The Research Council report is finished and has been sent to the Governor. The number one priority is veterans in rural areas getting to VA appointments.
- The recent media attention to the Arizona State Veteran Home centered around three concerns: falls, bedsores, and elopement (leaving the area without reporting). A plan of correction has been formulated and the Department of Health Services will re-survey.

The minutes of the December meeting were approved by a motion from Jesse Gersten, seconded and carried. The Treasurer's report was accepted by a motion from Mel Brody, seconded and carried.

Sickness and Distress: Mary Kay Collis was in the hospital and is recuperating at home. Bill Krause seems to have made improvement and he is aware of people speaking to him.

Presentations:

Frank Schmuck presented information about the Copper Sword Award that will be presented to David McIntyre, Jr., President of TriWest Healthcare Alliance. The event will be held Feb. 15th. Advance tickets are \$35.00 and can be purchased through the Hall of Fame Society website.

Bob Imell and **Lou Kelter** relayed information about the Phoenix Military & Veterans Hospitality Room in Terminal 2 at the airport. The Hospitality Room is a great success, but they are in need of funding. Donations can be made to PO Box 21341, Phoenix, AZ 85036.

Gabe Forsberg, ADVS advised that there is a change to the Rules for the ASVH. The Rules are published operating criteria, and any changes are subject to public comment before they can be accepted by the Governor's Regulatory Review Council. The changes reflect the change in the ADVS website to AZDVS.gov, and that a VA profile will be accepted in lieu of a DD 214 for admission into the Home.

Art Sloan reported that the Voices Take Flight will be held on March 8th at the Sun Dome. This year the performance will include Cadets from the Coast Guard Academy. Housing is needed for the 6th and 7th for the cadets.

Reports:

Board of Directors

- A membership roster will be developed for the use of all UAV Representatives.
- The Board discussed delinquent members, the 2007-08 budget, and a carillon for the Southern Arizona Veterans Memorial Cemetery.

- Chairman Fredricks has appointed the following members to the UAV Legislative Committee: Bob Delker, MOAA; Carol Hamburger, American Legion Auxiliary; Linda Fulkerson, Cactus WAVES; Bob Skopak, DAV; and Lionel Sanchez, VVA.
- Chairman Fredricks has developed and distributed a calendar of events for 2007-08.
- Nomination packets for the 2008 Hall of Fame will be available at the next UAV meeting.

Legislative Committee

- Bob Delker reported the presidential veto of the funding bills will result in new legislation.

Mel Brody, Vice Chairman

- The carillon at the National Cemetery will be installed the second week in February.

Unfinished Business

Chairman Fredricks requested that the minutes reflect that the new *signed* bylaws were distributed to the representatives.

Donna Adams will investigate opportunities for a legislative day at the state capital.

Good of the Order

- Mike Clemenson noted a lack of attention while presenters are speaking and asked that conversation be kept to a minimum.
- American Legion Post 84 will hold their event honoring the flag raising at Iwo Jima Feb. 22 & 23 in Sacaton.
- Donna Adams reported that the First Annual Salute to Veterans 100 Race will be held Feb. 22-24 at Central Arizona Raceway in Casa Grande. Tickets are available through ADVS, American Legion, and VFW. Veterans organizations have an opportunity to set up a display booth on the 23rd. For more information contact Diane D'Angelo at (602) 234-8421.
- Kathy Upchurch gave information about the Snowball Express Foundation for the families of service men and women killed in action.
- Lew Bradley advised that there is a new Marine Corps League Chapter in Sun Lakes.
- The Mesa Veterans are looking for donations and volunteers for the 2008 Veterans Day Parade.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:45 with proper ceremonies to meet again February 2, 2008.

Donna Adams, Secretary